



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Koichiro Hori et al
For: DEVICE-STEERING SHAFT ASSEMBLY AND
ENDOSCOPE
Serial No.: 08/994,537
Filing Date: 12/19/97
Group: 3732
Examiner: P. Hirsch
Attorney's Docket No.: OKTA-11

RECEIVED

APR 07 1999

Group 3700

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed please find a Verified Statement Claiming Small Business Entity
Status for filing in connection with the above-identified patent application.

The above-identified patent application was filed as a large entity. However,
the assignee of the above application has confirmed that it qualifies as a small
entity.

Please charge any fee, or credit any refund which may be due in connection
with the filing of the enclosed Verified Statement, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

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Small
Entity